

Minutes from a Meeting of the Concordia Council on Student Life
Held on May 3, 2013
SGW Campus H-769, 10am

PRESENT: Mr. Andrew Woodall (Chair), Ms. Lauren Broad (Secretary), Ms. Petra Alves (representing Ms. Marie-Josée Allard), Mr. Gerald Beasley, Ms. Claudie Boujaklian, Mr. John Bower (representing Ms. Katie Sheahan), Ms. Melanie Drew, Mr. Sharon Fraenkel, Mr. Veryan Goodship, Ms. Hannah Hackney, Mr. Daniel Houde, Mr. Howard Magonet, Ms. Nadine Montour, Mr. Sean Nolan, Ms. Irene Petsopoulos, Ms. Tanya Poletti (representing Mr. Bradley Tucker), Mr. Andrew Roberts, Ms. Emily Sheepy, Ms. Brigitte St-Laurent, Ms. Lorraine Toscano.

ABSENT WITH REGRETS: Dr. Stéphane Brutus, Mr. Jeansil Bruyère, Ms. Sharon Hunter, Mr. Paul Jerajian, Ms. Stephanie Sarik, Dr. Cameron Skinner, Ms. Jenessa Speed, Ms. Olivia Taddio.

ABSENT: Mr. Kavian Abhari, Mr. Jacques Lachance, Ms. Alexis Suzuki.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Chair called the meeting to order. Mr. Magonet moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Goodship seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

2. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

The Chair welcomed the Council to the last CCSL meeting of the 2012-2013 academic year. He noted some of the accomplishments of the Council: \$165,000 allocated from the CCSL Special Projects Fund to support student projects, including \$20,000 to HoJo and \$10,000 earmarked for the Committee Participation Awards Program; the CCSL Awards Night, with nine Outstanding Contribution Awards distributed; updating of the CCSL Special Projects Guidelines; review of the CCSL Mandate, to be continued into the next academic year. The Chair thanked all the Council members for their participation.

Mr. Woodall announced that Mr. Beasley had recently been named Vice-Provost and Chief Librarian at the University of Alberta, and congratulated him on his new appointment. Mr. Beasley noted that he would be leaving Concordia at the end of June 2013. He said that it had been a pleasure working at the university and he was hopeful that resources in the libraries would continue to improve. Mr. Beasley thanked students and those who sponsor students, adding that any achievements had been the result of feedback from the student population. He was very appreciative to those who had given their feedback to help enhance the library services. Mr. Beasley thanked the entire Council for their dedication to improving student life at Concordia.

The Chair wished to acknowledge two Concordia students, Eric Moses Gashirabake and Nicholas Sweet, who would receive the Lieutenant Governor of Québec Bronze Youth Medals for their significant contributions to society.

The Chair thanked the team who had worked diligently to see the realization of a sexual assault resource centre at Concordia, notably Mr. Magonet, Ms. Drew, Ms. Melissa Kate Wheeler, Ms. Julie Michaud and Ms. Bianca Mugenyi. A formal announcement of the resource centre had been made and the university was committed to seeing its establishment in the fall of 2013 on the downtown campus. Although it was a long process to get the sexual assault resource confirmed, the Chair explained that it was a real collaboration between students and the university administration, who were well aware of the importance and value such a centre would have at Concordia.

Mr. Woodall congratulated the office of Advancement & Alumni Relations for their successful Concordia University-Globe and Mail National Conversation Series on aging well. It had been a great success and University Communications Services contributed to its success through promotion of the series.

The Dean of Students Office had organized the Preparation for Leadership workshop on April 16, 2013 that was successful and well attended. It was designed to help student leaders learn about some of the important processes at the university for ensuring the success of their student group activities. Departments such as Security, Financial Services

and Hospitality were present to give a brief presentation to students and answer questions. There was a cocktail held following the workshop for incoming and outgoing student leaders to network.

The Chair announced that a casual employee, Mr. Paul Goubko, had been hired in the Dean of Students Office to help revive the Co-Curricular Record. He was hopeful that it would be functional for the fall 2013 semester. Mr. Woodall encouraged members of the Council to notify the student associations. Any questions should be directed to Mr. Goubko at co-curricular@concordia.ca.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

3.1 Approval of the Minutes of March 1, 2013

Ms. Petsopoulos moved to approve the minutes from the meeting of March 1, 2013 and Mr. Magonet seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

3.2 Approval of the Minutes of April 5, 2013

Mr. Goodship moved to approve the minutes from the meeting of April 5, 2013 and Mr. Bower seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

4.1 Business Arising from the Minutes of March 1, 2013

There was no business arising from the minutes.

4.2 Business Arising from the Minutes of April 5, 2013

There was no business arising from the minutes.

5. REPORTS AND ITEMS OF INFORMATION

5.1 Sub-Committees

CCSL Special Projects: Guidelines Review

The Chair reminded the Council that the sub-committee, including Mr. Roberts, Ms. Hackney, Ms. Suzuki and himself, had reviewed the Special Projects guidelines. A revised document had been created to compare the current and proposed new guidelines, and was circulated to the Council prior to the meeting. The aim of review was to make the application and review process more clear for students. Mr. Woodall welcomed any comments and questions regarding the suggested changes. The question was raised about whether or not to provide a more specific date for students to receive a reply regarding their funding, rather than indicating four weeks following the submission deadline. Mr. Woodall pointed out that specifying a date relative to the CCSL meetings would be irrelevant information for the average student, who does not know the annual CCSL meeting schedule. Ms. Petsopoulos was concerned that the document may be too lengthy and that some information may be lost to the students. Ms. Drew noted that most funding applications were similar in length and that she felt the information in the proposed document was clear and in a more comprehensible order. Several of the student representatives agreed that the proposed document was very understandable and did not feel that it would be beneficial to remove any of the information provided. Ms. Petsopoulos suggested including a checklist at the end of the application, in order for students to verify that they have gone through all the necessary steps of the application process. The Council agreed that a checklist would be very useful for applicants.

Mr. Roberts put forth the following motion, seconded by Ms. Drew:

Be it resolved that the CCSL Special Project Funding Guidelines updated April 3, 2013 be accepted as of the 2013-2014 academic year. A checklist for students to verify that all required steps of the submission have been followed will be included at the end of the application process.

The motion passed unanimously.

5.2 Ad-Hoc Committee: CCSL Mandate Review

The Chair thanked Ms. Petsopoulos, Ms. Sheepy and Ms. Suzuki for their participation and valuable contribution to the ad-hoc committee. The committee's meetings had focused on getting the CCSL more involved in student engagement. Mr. Woodall noted that a discussion document had been circulated to the Council prior to the meeting for contemplation. He welcomed any comments or questions, adding that it was a work in progress. The main suggestion from the ad-hoc committee was to conduct a research project to explore the many aspects of student engagement.

The main concern raised by the Council was that they did not want a research project to duplicate any survey already conducted by the university. The hope would be to add to the current research and discussion already taking place on campus. It was also noted that other universities should be studied to identify how they are successful in engaging their student populations. It was acknowledged that the student population at Concordia was very diverse and that engaging individuals may take on many different forms.

The Chair said that he would work on developing the discussion document throughout the summer months, with feedback from the ad-hoc committee, in order to incorporate the comments and suggestions of the Council for the September 2013 CCSL meeting.

6. NEW BUSINESS

The Chair announced the upcoming Alumni Recognition Awards on May 21, 2013. Among the recipients was Nancy Curran for the Outstanding Faculty/Staff Awards and Eric Moses Gashirabake for the Outstanding Student Award.

Ms. Toscano wished to inform the Council that as of May 1, 2013, students were able to access Opus forms online through the Concordia portal. These forms had previously only been available at the Birks Student Service Centre. The forms allow a student to receive a reduced fare by attesting that they are a full-time student. As long as the student meets the requirements for the reduced fare, the form will print out for them from the system. If not, they will receive a message. Ms. Toscano also reminded the Council that the Birks Student Service Centre was temporarily re-located to the MB building until the end of July.

Mr. Beasley reported that the Conférence des recteurs et principaux des universités du Québec (CREPUQ), a grouping of Québec universities, appeared to be breaking apart and many members were declaring they would be leaving the association in the next six months. This would have an impact on many students, staff and faculty who carry a CREPUQ card in order to benefit from borrowing items from other Québec university libraries. This service is of great value to the student population, specifically to graduate students. With the association potentially disbanding, the CREPUQ card and its benefits were at risk. Mr. Beasley hoped that everyone concerned would make it known to the community in order to protect this important resource. Mr. Fraenkel suggested having an article in the NOW university publication in order to make the issue more known.

Mr. Bower reminded the Council that Ms. Sheahan's last day as Director of Recreation & Athletics was May 31, 2013. He encouraged everyone to send her their well wishes. He noted that organization of a farewell gathering open to the university community was underway.

7. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be in September 2013. Date, time and location to be confirmed at a later date.

8. TERMINATION OF MEETING

Ms. Hackney motioned to terminate the meeting. Mr. Nolan seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.